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A Chicago Tribune
publication

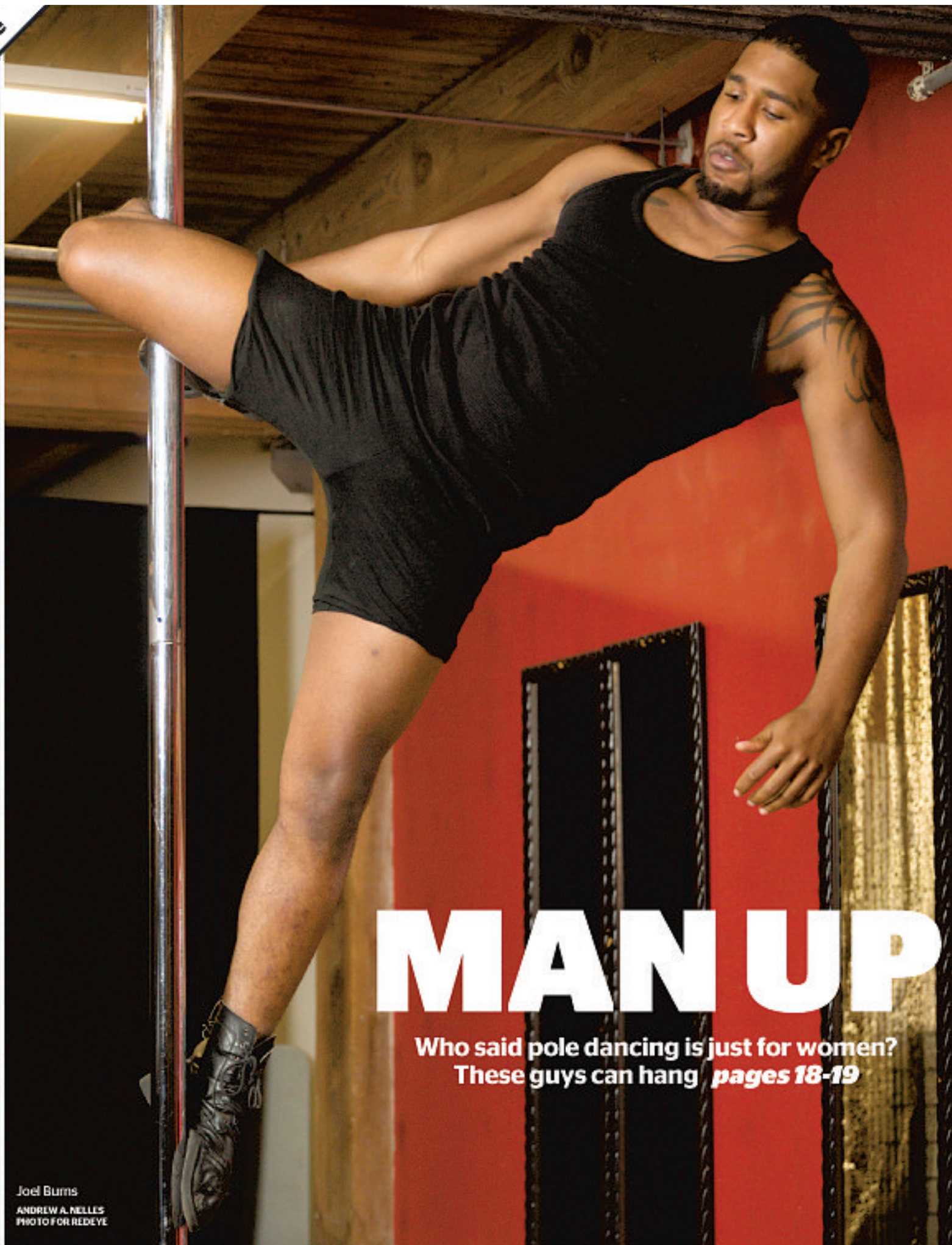


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Joel Burns
ANDREW A. NELLES
PHOTO FOR REDEYE



MAN UP

Who said pole dancing is just for women?
These guys can hang *pages 18-19*

BY KRISTIN LARSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM » GET MORE EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYECHICAGO.COM

EAT **HOT DOG EATING CONTEST** **Bangers & Lace** 1670 W. Division St. 773-252-6499

Put your hot dog-eating skills to the test at this third annual competition. Entrance fee includes a T-shirt, beer and all the dogs you can eat. Last year's winner ate 27 dogs in just five minutes (that's more than five dogs per minute!). \$25 to compete; free to watch. 2 p.m. Sunday.



MONDAY BRUNCH **Nico Osteria** 1015 N. Rush St. 312-994-7100

Cap off the three-day weekend with an Italian brunch at the chic Gold Coast eatery. Brunch highlights for the day include the Nico Caesar salad with chicken, olives and cherry tomatoes (\$22) and the Nico Burger, a classic burger topped with lobster salad and avocado (\$25). Have a sweet tooth? Try the raspberry and pistachio oven-baked pancake (\$15). 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday.

DRINK

HALF OFF DRAFT BEERS **Bottlefork**

441 N. Clark St. 312-955-1900

Enjoy half off all draft beers (regularly \$7-\$8), including the restaurant's collaboration with Begyle Brewing called Clark Street Tart, a saison made with more than 250 pounds of rhubarb per batch; as well as Temperance Escape Artist IPA. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday; 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday.

MADE IN THE USA PARTY **Casey Moran's**

3660 N. Clark St. 773-755-4444

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DO

BEARD AND MUSTACHE CONTEST **Kaiser Tiger**

1415 W. Randolph St. 312-243-3100

Think you've got winning facial hair? Compete for a chance to win your weight in sausage (seriously) at this West Loop bar. Enter at 3 p.m. Contest at 4 p.m. Saturday.



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REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

It's the last weekend for Chicago beach season, so get out early to snag your spot: cpdbeaches.com

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Police commander faces felony charges

Evans called dedicated officer, but has detractors

Chicago Tribune

When Chicago police rolled up last summer on a Woodlawn block in response to complaints of loud outdoor party, leading the charge was Glenn Evans, then the top commander of that South Side police district.

It was about 11:30 p.m. on a weeknight, so Evans understandably could have been home long before. But he took charge of the routine call, instructing officers to order the crowd to move along or risk arrest, a neighbor recalled.

Such round-the-clock dedication and willingness to regularly work the streets has earned Evans strong support for his aggressive style from not only Woodlawn residents but also Superintendent Garry McCarthy and rank-and-file officers.

But buried inside court documents are troubling allegations suggesting Evans' hard-charging tactics may have crossed the line for years. Several lawsuits alleged he violated civil rights and physically abused citizens, in the process costing the city tens of thousands of dollars in settlements. And alleged victims filed at least nine excessive-force complaints against Evans between 2001 and 2008, though none resulted in disciplinary action against him, newly released police records show.

Now Evans, a 28-year department veteran, faces the most serious allegation of all—felony charges that last year he tackled a man in an abandoned house, shoved his service weapon down his throat, held a Taser to his groin and threatened to kill him if he didn't tell him where he hid a gun.

The conduct is especially disturbing because of Evans' leadership role as one of 22 police district commanders and the power he has to affect the culture of the department.

"I think that's highly problematic," said David Klinger, associate professor of criminology at the University of Missouri at St. Louis. "We expect more of our leaders, not less. And we certainly don't expect our leaders to be engaged in ... illegal conduct. Not just illegal conduct, but abusing someone physically. ... If it's true, it's unacceptable."

Colleagues described Evans as a leader who doesn't fit the traditional mold of a district commander, a post that brings intense pressure to reduce violence, particularly in the city's most dangerous neighborhoods like where he worked the past two years. Several said he spends considerable time on the street, joining in foot chases and responding to shootings and traffic stops. Sometimes he



Chicago Police Department Cmdr. Glenn Evans (left) listens to a Harrison District resident at a National Night Out event in Chicago earlier this month. **REUTERS VIA WBZ**

has been known to catch only a few hours of sleep in his office before starting all over again.

"He's all about doing the job," one high-ranking colleague said. "The guy would show up when he'd wake up in the morning and work for 20 hours. Lather. Rinse. Repeat."

For residents of Woodlawn, his attention to street crime stood out and, they believe, got results. The violence was so entrenched that many welcomed his aggressiveness.

"His tactics on the street brought our mur-

ders down," resident Corey Howard said. "To me, Cmdr. Evans brought some type of peace."

Some described Evans' tactics as from a more bygone era of policing.

"He comes from an era of aggressive police officers," said Ernest Brown, Chicago's former chief of patrol who commanded Evans in the defunct public housing unit and now heads suburban Darien's department. "Glenn comes from an era where leaders lead from the front. Older police officers tend to be

THE ALLEGED INCIDENT

In bond court Thursday, prosecutors said Glenn Evans, then commander of the Grand Crossing District, was on patrol on the afternoon of Jan 30, 2013, in the 500 block of East 71st Street when he exited his unmarked squad car and approached what he believed was an armed man, Assistant State's Attorney Lauren Freeman said.

The 22-year-old man ran to an abandoned building in 7100 block of South Eberhart Avenue. Evans called for backup, gave chase on foot and then entered the location with several responding officers who had their guns drawn. He tackled the man and stuck the barrel of his service weapon "deep down the victim's throat," held a Taser to his groin and threatened to kill him, Freeman alleged.

The alleged victim filed a complaint with the Independent Police Review Authority the next day. The following month, Evans' gun was swabbed for DNA. Last April, delayed by a backlog, the Illinois State police's crime lab found that the DNA conclusively matched the victim's profile, Freeman said.

more aggressive."

In bond court Thursday, Evans was released on his own recognizance on charges of aggravated battery and official misconduct. Evans, 52, was allowed to leave the Leighton Criminal Court Building through a rarely used exit, bypassing a waiting throng of cameramen and reporters by the main doorway. A sheriff's spokeswoman said a lieutenant who assisted Evans faces disciplinary action for violating department policy.

Evans faces anything from probation to five years in prison if convicted. He has been assigned desk duty at police headquarters pending the outcome of the allegations.

Laura Morask, Evans' attorney, told Judge Laura Sullivan that Evans would vigorously contest the charges. She said the DNA evidence gathered by prosecutors was "far from being a smoking gun."

"Those results will confirm and corroborate what my client says happened," she said.

Morask said later that Evans has made more than 1,500 arrests and received 200 awards over his career. After his success in reducing shootings in the Grand Crossing District, McCarthy moved him to the Harrison District on the West Side.

"He is one of the hardest working commanders that I have ever seen," said Morask, a former longtime Cook County prosecutor.

Yet recently released police records show Evans was one of 662 officers who racked up the most complaints between 2001 and 2006 while he was at least a sergeant.



Love of the game isn't just for men



Lela Olds

redeye@tribune.com
@literallylela

The men in tights with strong arms and thick necks are back and in full effect. It's time to tailgate, break out our jerseys and yell at the TV like crazy people. That's right: Football season is back!

I'm sure that 99.9 percent of men in America are like kids in a candy store right now, bursting with joy. And if you're a woman like

my friends and me, you should be filled with that same excitement, if not more.

It was circa 2001 when I first sat down with my dad and decided to ask questions about this confusing game being played on turf. Just based on observation, I knew that I should cheer on my Chicago Bears, but that's about it. After sitting through four quarters of first downs, offsides and two-point conversation discussions, I was good to go.

Since then, I haven't looked back or wavered as a die-hard fan of the game. It baffles me to see so many women downing the game of football and not even making an attempt to learn. Ladies, here's the thing: Even if you don't understand what's happening on the field, here's a few reasons to pay attention.

If you're a single woman, you should be the biggest supporter of football. Do you know how many potential suitors you can meet? Listen! Men travel in packs to games, and I'm sure they would love to meet a woman who's also

cheering on their team. It doesn't hurt to slap on a little lipstick, throw on your best football tee, gather up your girls and head to the field or your favorite sports bar.

If you're a wife or girlfriend, football season could serve as bonding time for you and your mate. Imagine his surprise when you show up with wings or pizza and plop down on the couch instead of making reservations at your favorite expensive steakhouse. I don't know about you, but that sounds like a great date night to me.

And don't even get me started on the absolute beauty that runs back and forth on that field. I sometimes wish the teams could play without helmets so we could see their faces, but I guess that wouldn't be too safe, huh? On any given Sunday while also enjoying the game, I sometimes find myself talking about the fine players. Then, I snap back to reality and get into the action. Believe me, the NFL has some of the finest players in all of sports. If that's not a reason to love football, I don't know what is.

Now don't get me wrong. As much as I think football is great for all of the reasons mentioned above, my love for the game lies far deeper. In high school, I only went to games to see the fine boys and hang with my friends. But ever since that Sunday back in 2001 when I watched my Monsters of the Midway with my dad, my passion for the sport has grown with each passing year.

If you choose to explore and end up liking the game solely based off of the reasons above, I hope that, one day, your like can develop into a love like mine.

LELA OLDS IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

#GETFESTED

Welp. We asked you to share your photos from weekend street fests on Instagram and Twitter with the #getfested hashtag. And you delivered, per the usual.

As summer begins to wind down, so does our weekly feature rounding up your best fest photos. Want to get yours in under the wire? Snap a photo of yourself or a friend completing our challenge and post it on Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #getfested. The best will make it to our paper and website!

THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE:

Show us your best North Coast Music Fest photos. Don't forget to use the #getfested hashtag! Use these staff favorites for inspiration.

"Lobster on lobster on lobster!"
—@chastidy16



"What bed time? Squeezing the last bit of Summer at another awesome street-fest. Monday calls so time for the short bike ride back home!"
—@joabra

BONUS!

Got plans Monday night, other than nursing your Labor Day weekend hang-over? Join RedEye and Do312 at East Room for an unauthorized screening of "The Unauthorized Saved by the Bell Story" Lifetime TV movie. No cover. RSVP at do312.com/savedbythebell—movie starts at 8 p.m.!



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88/73
Hot, hot, hot

The Illinois Tollway is reducing the price of an I-Pass transponder to \$30 from \$50 for those who open a new account, officials said Thursday.



Chicago Public School Safe Passage workers hold hands during prayer at a Thursday back-to-school event at Journeyman Plumber's Hall. The state is adding \$10 million to the anti-violence program, the offices of the governor and mayor announced Thursday. JOSE M. OSORIO/TRIBUNE

Cops step up patrols in Uptown

By Rachel Cromidas | REDEYE

With some Uptown residents worrying crime is getting worse in their neighborhood, Ald. James Cappleman (46th) took to Twitter to announce an increase in police patrolling Clarendon Park, the scene of a gang shooting last weekend.

The "Police Commander will be stepping up more patrols around Clarendon Park Fieldhouse. Reviewing Police & Park plans to quell illegal activity," the alderman tweeted Monday morning. A spokeswoman for Cappleman said the local police district, the 19th District, also is coordinating with the city's Park District to increase patrols in the area of the North Side park.

About 9:30 p.m. Sunday, a man was shot in the shoulder in Clarendon Park, in the 4500 block of Clarendon Park—just south of Wilson near the lakefront, according to Chicago police. He was taken to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center in good condition, authorities said. Officials said the shooting was gang-related and no arrests have been made in the case.

Some residents who live near the park say this is just the latest shooting tied to

gangs. There also have been fights and drug-dealing in the community just north of Lakeview and Buena Park and just South of Edgewater.

Sean Battle, 38, told RedEye he took video from the balcony of his apartment, overlooking Clarendon Park, on Sunday night and said there's footage of groups of people fighting in the aftermath the shooting. He later posted two videos of the chaos on YouTube.

Battle said he's heard what he thinks are more gunshots in his neighborhood this year, compared to the nine-plus years he's lived in Uptown.

"It's scary," he said. "It's always been a slightly rough around the edges neighborhood, but for the most part it's pretty safe up until this last year. I really don't feel safe walking around at night anymore because you don't know who's looking for who and what's going on."

Battle said he is soon moving to Lincoln Square, a neighborhood that he thinks will be safer to raise his 2-year-old daughter.

"It's to the point now where I won't take her to Clarendon Park," he said. "That's

insane, when we have a big beautiful park right across the street."

Police officials declined to comment on crime-fighting strategies in the area, and a spokeswoman for Cappleman did not respond to a request for an interview with him.

Jackie Keophet, 22, said she could hear what she thought were gunshots Sunday night from her apartment near the corner of Clarendon and Windsor avenues.

"We thought maybe it was something else, because there were so many shots fired," she said. "We started hearing tons of screaming, and then later in the night we noticed all the police cars all over the block," she said.

This wasn't Keophet's first brush with neighborhood violence since moving to Uptown in November. Earlier this summer, she said, a bullet was shot through one of her apartment windows.

"I was really upset about it and wanted to cancel my lease," she said. "The park has the potential to be a great place, but there's too much going on and not enough people doing anything about it."

RCROMIDAS@TRIBUNE.COM | @RACHELCROMIDAS

CTA offers free student rides on 1st day of school

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

For Chicago students going back to elementary or high school, at least math will be easy on their first day. Students will pay nothing to ride the CTA on Tuesday.

The transit agency once again is providing free rides to elementary and high school students Tuesday, the first day of school for Chicago Public Schools. Adults accompanying students also can ride for free.

Last year, the CTA provided more than 147,000 free student rides on the first day of school. The Sun-Times pays for the program.

For the rest of the year, Chicago students are eligible to receive a reduced fare of 75 cents per ride to take the CTA on school days.

The student fare is available for full-time students ages 7 to 20 taking the CTA to their public, parochial or private elementary or high school. Eligible riders can take advantage of the fares from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday when school is in session.

When school is not in session, children ages 7 to 11 can receive a reduced rate of \$1.10 on rail rides (down from the regular \$2.25 fare) and \$1 on buses (down from the regular \$2 fare), and younger children ride free.

To take advantage of the free fare on the first day—and the discounted student fares the rest of the school year—students must obtain a Ventra card from their school or fill out a special online student form at transit.chicago.com/students. Students should not obtain Ventra cards from rail vending machines or retail outlets, according to the CTA.

TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM | @TRACYSWARTZ

BY THE NUMBERS

75 CENTS

Discounted fare for students ages 7 to 20 taking the CTA to school

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Number of rides CTA provides students on an average weekday

25.6M

Number of reduced student rides CTA provides throughout the year

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GETTY IMAGES

III. Millennials confident about financial literacy

By Megan Crepeau | REDEYE

Millennials in Illinois are more confident about their financial literacy than 18- to 34-year-olds in the rest of the country—but they're also hanging on to some dangerous myths about credit, according to a new study from BMO Harris Bank.

The report examined attitudes and habits concerning credit scores, the numerical ratings calculated by credit bureaus as a way to measure borrowers' financial responsibility.

First, the good news. About eight in 10 Illinois Millennials say they know how to manage their money in order to improve their credit scores, compared with just 72 percent on the national level. More than half of Millennials in the state report checking their credit score every year. When asked to identify a good credit score, Millennials nationwide said it should be 625; Illinois Millennials had higher standards, saying on average that a

good score would be 654.

"Our survey shows that most feel they are knowledgeable about credit, although their idea of a good score is slightly below what it should be," stated Julie Curran, Chicago-area regional president at BMO Harris, in a news release. Curran said BMO considers a good credit score to be "in the 680-720 range."

However, Illinois Millennials—more than other age groups in the state—said they think checking a credit score would impact that score negatively: Nearly 40 percent believed that misconception, compared with 29 percent of respondents aged 35-54 and 17 percent of those 55 or older.

Younger Illinoisans also were slightly more likely than other age groups in the state to believe that paying cash for everything will improve a credit score or that a bad credit score will stay with a person indefinitely.

MCREPEAU@TRIBUNE.COM | @CREPEAU

BY THE NUMBERS

37% Percentage of Millennials in Illinois who mistakenly believe checking their credit score can decrease that score

56% Percentage of Millennials statewide who say they check their credit score every year

26% Share of Illinois Millennials who say they don't know their credit score or have never checked

21% Percentage of Illinois 18- to 34-year-olds who believe the misconception that carrying a balance on credit cards will improve their credit score

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New iPhones expected Sept. 9

1 Apple invited media to a "special event" in its hometown of Cupertino, Calif., on Sept. 9, when the iPhone maker is expected to unveil the latest versions of its best-selling smartphones. Apple's typically cryptic invitation read: "Wish we could say more." The launch date had been widely reported.

Missouri police sued for \$40 million

2 A group of people caught up in unrest in Ferguson, Mo., after a white officer killed a black teenager, sued local officials Thursday, alleging civil rights violations through arrests and police assaults with rubber bullets and tear gas.

Ebola outbreak could infect 20,000 people

3 The Ebola epidemic in West Africa could infect more than 20,000 people and spread to more countries, the U.N. health agency said Thursday, warning that an international effort costing almost half a billion dollars is needed to overcome the outbreak.



Gopher tortoise
REUTERS

Florida man caught killing, eating threatened tortoises

4 Wildlife authorities in Florida caught a man who killed and ate 15 gopher tortoises and planned to slaughter 11 more of the threatened reptiles, a Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission spokeswoman said Thursday.

Israel police find body of missing U.S. student

5 Israeli police said Thursday they had found the body of 23-year-old New Jersey student Aaron Sofer, who went missing last week near a forest in Jerusalem. Authorities do not suspect foul play.



6 Pro-Russian separatists walk toward a destroyed war memorial at Savur-Mohyla, a hill east of the city of Donetsk. Ukraine President Petro Poroshenko said Thursday that Russian troops had entered his country in support of pro-Moscow rebels who captured a key coastal town, sharply escalating a five-month-old war. **REUTERS**

ISIL waterboarded hostages

7 At least four hostages held in Syria by Islamic State militants, including U.S. journalist James Foley, were waterboarded during their captivity. The Washington Post reported Thursday, citing people familiar with the treatment of Western hostages.

The Islamic State captors appeared to model the technique on that of the CIA, which waterboarded three terrorism suspects captured after the Sept. 11, 2001, U.S. terror attacks, the Post said. Foley was subsequently beheaded by his captors.

Waterboarding, a process characterized by President Obama and many other U.S. politicians as torture, simulates drowning.

Three Americans and fewer than 10 other western hostages still are being held by the militant group, according to people familiar with the situation.

"They knew exactly how it was done," said a person with knowledge of what happened, the Post reported. That person, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Foley and the other captives were held in Raqqa, Syria.

"ISIL is a group that routinely crucifies and beheads people. It needs no inspiration for its brutality. To suggest that the U.S. is somehow responsible for ISIL tactics is ridiculous and feeds into their twisted propaganda," a U.S. official said.

Meanwhile, Islamic State fighters executed scores of Syrian soldiers captured over the weekend, according to a video posted on YouTube on Thursday.

Reuters could not independently verify the authenticity of the video.

The caption beneath it said the dead numbered 250. An Islamic State fighter in Raqqa

DEVISING A PLAN

The United States is intensifying its push to build an international campaign against Islamic State jihadist fighters in Iraq and Syria, including recruiting partners for potential joint military action, Obama administration officials said. "We are going to work politically and diplomatically with folks in the region," President Obama told reporters Thursday at the White House.

told Reuters via the Internet: "Yes, we have executed them all."

Islamic State, a radical offshoot of al-Qaida, stormed Tabqa airbase Sunday after days of clashes with the army and said it had captured and killed soldiers and officers in one of the bloodiest confrontations yet between the two sides.



THE DIGIT

20

The U.S. government pared back the number of reef-building coral species it was considering to label as threatened from 66 to 20 this week, prompting criticism from conservationists. Environmentalists urged the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on Thursday to extend the protection to all threatened marine species. The NOAA added the 20 species to two—staghorn and elkhorn—that were listed as threatened in 2006. Of the new species, five are found in the Caribbean, including pillar coral and rough cactus coral, and 15 in the Indo-Pacific.

Perfecto! A Mexican grill party made easy

For one wonderful summer afternoon, forget your minimalist aesthetic, your hip neutrals and — most definitely — your diet. This party is all about the vivid colors, vibrant flavors and free-spirited fun of a Mexican fiesta.

The focal point of the day is the food. And for some fabuloso recipes, we sought out Pati Jinich, star of the popular PBS cooking show “Pati’s Mexican Table” and author of “Pati’s Mexican Table: The Secrets of Real Mexican Home Cooking”.

Here are two of her grill party favorites with instructions for finishing either on an outdoor grill or in the kitchen.

Honey-chipotle Ribs

Costillitas con Chipotle y Miel

Serves 4

1 cup ketchup
2/3 cup honey
3 chipotle chilies in adobo sauce (from a can), seeded and minced, or to taste, plus 1/4 cup adobo sauce
10 garlic cloves, minced or pressed
2 tablespoons olive oil

1/4 cup Dijon mustard
1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
1/4 cup Maggi sauce or soy sauce
2 tablespoons dried oregano, preferably Mexican
1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
3 pounds baby back ribs or spareribs

In a medium bowl, combine the ketchup, honey, chipotle chilies, adobo sauce, garlic, olive oil, mustard, vinegar, Worcestershire, Maggi sauce, oregano and pepper. Mix well.

Line a large roasting pan with parchment paper or aluminum foil. Pour some sauce into the bottom of the pan, then add the ribs and pour the remaining sauce on top. Cover tightly with foil and marinate for at least 30 minutes or up to 24 hours; if marinating for more than 30 minutes,

refrigerate the ribs.
Preheat the oven to 350°F.
Roast the ribs, covered, for 1-1/2 hours.

Remove the pan from the oven and carefully remove the aluminum foil, taking care not to get burned by the steam. Spoon the thickened sauce from the bottom of the pan on top of the ribs and roast, uncovered, for 30 minutes more or until they are beautifully browned and sticky. Remove from the oven and let rest for 10 minutes.

Alternatively, after you remove the foil, you can finish off the ribs on the grill at medium heat for about 15 minutes. Slice the ribs into 2- to 3-bone pieces and serve.

Crazy Street Corn

Elotes Callejeros

Serves 6

6 ears corn, husked and rinsed
1 tablespoon vegetable oil, if grilling
Softened unsalted butter
Mayonnaise
1 cup thoroughly crumbled queso fresco,

Cotija, farmer cheese or mild feta
Kosher or coarse sea salt
Dried ground chili, such as piquín, or a Mexican mix
3 limes, halved

To grill the corn, prepare a medium fire in an outdoor grill or heat a grill pan over medium heat. Lightly brush the corn with the oil. Add the corn to the grill or pan and cook, turning every 3 minutes, until tender and slightly charred, 9 to 12 minutes. Alternatively, you can cook the corn in a big pot of boiling water until tender, 4 to 8 minutes, depending on the freshness of the corn. Remove the corn from the heat, or drain it, and pile on a platter, along with corn holders or thick wooden skewers.

Serve with the garnishes so everyone can fix their corn the way they want. The traditional way is to spread on a layer of butter, then a layer of mayonnaise. Next, thoroughly cover the corn with the crumbled cheese, either by rolling the corn on a plate of the cheese or sprinkling it on. Finish with a shower of salt and ground chili, then a squeeze or two of lime juice.



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sports

BIG TALK



Ernest Wilkins

ewilkins@tribune.com
@ErnestWilkins

At their best, Big Ten fans are awesome. At their worst, well ...

In the grand tradition of college football, allow me to ring in this season with a look at the Big Ten. To make it fun (and in the spirit of trash talk), I've ranked the teams according to how annoying their respective fan bases are. Go ahead and hit

me with your feedback, BTW. I can take it.

CHICAGO'S WINGMAN ERNEST WILKINS IS A PROUD FLORIDA STATE ALUM.



Northwestern fans

10: Penn State

Still too soon. They've got the former Vanderbilt coach (James Franklin) now though, so, hooray?

9: Nebraska

Did the Huskers decide to take this decade off? They've been living off their legacy by winning only nine games a year, then fading into that midlevel bowl game life. Huskers fans are pretty harmless, actually. Just don't mention that time Bo Pelini eviscerated the fan base for being a bunch of fair-weather, uninteresting, hee-haw castoffs, OK? They didn't like that.



Nebraska fan

14: Rutgers

NEW TEAM! The Scarlet Knights are the Big Ten's answer to "breaking into the New York market." The conference basically signed up a University of Phoenix extension campus so alums in NYC can see their team once a year.

13: Minnesota

Here's a fun trick, should you happen to find yourself in the great white north: Tell people at the bar you recently finished a four-year run as the starting strong safety for the Golden Gophers. Their fans won't know any better, so you drink free all night!

12: Purdue

Things are bleak in West Lafayette, Ind., and not just because Purdue won only one game last year. It's to the point where last year a recruit chose FCS (Division I-AA) school Grand Valley State over being a Boilermaker. That's depressing.

11: Northwestern

The team made history last year by trying to unionize. That's the most interesting thing that's happened since they made the Rose Bowl once in the '90s. Fans got excited when the team started 4-0 last year but then, well, reality set in.

8: Illinois

Anyone else think it's kind of weird that despite housing more nerds per capita than MIT, NASA and a "Doctor Who" mega-marathon combined, Fighting Illini fans don't get as much crap as Northwestern does? Look, there's a reason you most likely don't know any Illini fans. Instead of going to games, they're busy using cold fusion-powered Rube Goldberg 3-D printers to try and make a girlfriend like in "Weird Science."

7: Iowa

Iowa fans, I ask you: How has Kirk Ferentz managed to keep his job despite delivering the gridiron equivalent of a loose meat sandwich year after year? Not like Iowa fans are fed up. They'd rather talk your ear off about their TOUGH LINEBACKERS—usually three converted fullbacks. Iowa seems to have fallen behind on the times. Serious question: Do Iowa fans know about social media? Like, if I were to go to The Union bar right now with an iPad, would they attempt to pour beer into it?



Maryland fans

6: Indiana

Hold on to your butts, Indiana is supposed to be good this year! The Hoosiers managed to coerce a few good players to sign up. This has awakened some members of Hoosier Nation from their perpetual m.o. of sobbing in the fetal position after another inept basketball season, but not enough to push them any higher on this list.

5: Maryland

NEW TEAM! Allow me to clue you in to Maryland fans: They're a fun hybrid of the worst aspects of Illinois fans (school is known for basketball, so they treat football as an afterthought), Nebraska fans (borderline insane levels of state pride) and Wisconsin fans (the year they pull off a ridiculous upset of your school's team, expect to never hear the end of it).



Michigan State fans
GETTY IMAGES FILE PHOTOS

THE STARTING LINE

White Sox vs. Detroit, 7:10 p.m. CSN • Cubs at St. Louis, 7:15 p.m. WGN • NASCAR driver Tony Stewart to return to racing this weekend

4: Michigan

After multiple years of not living up to the STANDARD OF MICHIGAN FOOTBALL, Wolverines fans have gotten to a point where they're just getting hammered with steady doses of reality. The team isn't good, the offense might as well punt on first down and their athletic director has raised prices so high that NFL owners are pleasuring themselves to his balance sheets. Ever vigilant, Michigan fans have steeled themselves into consistently reminding everyone they have more money than you. You know, when they aren't crying into their North Face pullovers.

Ohio State fans



3: Wisconsin

The biggest issue with last year's rankings was fans of other teams berating me for not listing the Badgers higher than No. 7. I didn't believe the hype. However, I've heard about countless examples of Wisco fans being absolute terrors. The absolute worst: A friend told me he had a cup of pee thrown at him at Camp Randall Stadium. Wow.

2: Ohio State

Ohio State fans are a morass of overconfident mongoloids who always manage to land cushy, high-paying jobs where they don't do anything but Google "John Cena workout plan" all day. Despite being the only school other than Arizona State that could announce crossfit as a major without me blinking, the loss of Braxton Miller means we aren't in for a season of evangelizing him. They lose the right to talk big, which means they lose their No. 1 ranking from last year. Your new No. 1 is ...

1: Michigan State

Yup. Sparty takes the top spot this year for one reason only: They're winning now. Michigan State won a Big Ten title and went to the Rose Bowl last year. Oh, you hadn't heard? I'm pretty sure they haven't shut up since it happened. Spartans fans have come into some good teams the past three years and all have decided to collectively forget the decade of crap in the 2000s. They're already starting to crack wise at Michigan and Ohio State fans, and let me tell you, it only gets worse from here. Michigan State fans in 2014 are the equivalent of when your awkward younger brother finally hits puberty, starts working out and begs your mom to buy that tub of whey protein that sits atop your fridge for 11 years. I fear the worst is yet to come with Michigan State.



» Ex-Bears coach Lovie Smith selling Lake Forest home for \$1.99M

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FUNNY 101

Is it possible for us to have college football AND the warm weather of summer for a few months? Please?



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| | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|--|
| 1 | Make a prediction for the college football season. | The SEC will continue to be the NFL job placement program. | Eli Greenfield and Jon Lambie will watch some Notre Dame football. And ... I may actually as well. | No team from Illinois goes bowling. Michigan State reaches the four-team playoff. TWOFR! | Florida gets destroyed and Ernest Wilkins gloats, rubbing the loss in Tracy Swartz's face every chance he gets. | The Big Ten will send a team to the playoffs. |
| 2 | What surprises are in store for the Big Ten in 2014? | I'll be surprised if the Illini win any games. | Schools will start paying athletes but it will not go well because they want to pay them in actual peanuts. | I've heard rumors that two whole new teams might be joining! | It would be a surprise if Illinois came out on top in the conference. I-L-L ... | Maryland won't be bad. Michigan will be. |
| 3 | Who else in Chicago sports deserves a trip to Disney World? | Jose Quintana. That guy can't catch a break. Since the Sox couldn't give him run support, they ought to pay for the trip. | Jay Cutler. But only if he agrees to stay there during the football season. | Shea McClellin. On an extended stay. | Jonathan Toews. His wakeboarding Ice Bucket Challenge alone is deserving of a trip to the Magic Kingdom. | The Chicago Sky. |
| 4 | Jay Cutler and Matthew Stafford were on an SI cover. You worried about any Jinx? | Naw, the defense is what Bears fans should be worried about. | A jinx only works against people who, you know, are a threat to do something good in the first place. | It was a regional cover, and Wilson and Kaepernick were on the West Coast. So, hopefully? | Nah, not on SI. The RedEye cover, however, is another story. | Not worried about it—that's how sure I am something bad will happen. |
| 5 | Using airplane parts in football shoulder pads is ... | ... troublesome. Not sure what to make of that. | ... great as long as they don't use the propeller. | ... probably how the flying player "Madden 15" glitch came to be. | ... like Red Bull. It gives you wings. | Michigan State wouldn't do that—their defense has a no-fly zone. |

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The Sky celebrate after defeating Atlanta, 81-80, on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES

Can't avoid them forever

Sky face archnemesis Indiana in Eastern Conference finals

Chicago Tribune

It's easy to see why the Sky didn't mind losing the final game of the regular season, even if that defeat matched them with Eastern Conference winner Atlanta in the opening round of the WNBA playoffs.

The alternative was playing Indiana.

Now that can't be avoided, with the teams meeting in the best-of-three Eastern Conference finals that begin Saturday in Indianapolis. And the Fever have the Sky's number.

■ Last year, a fourth-place Indiana team routed the first-place Sky in both games of the opening round, with the fifth largest combined margin of victory (35 points) in any WNBA playoff series ever.

■ The Fever have a 30-8 record against the Sky in regular-season games, including 18-2 in Indianapolis.

■ This is the Fever's 10th straight playoff appearance, and their Top 6 players have a combined 23 games in conference finals. The Sky had not made the playoffs until



Chicago's Sylvia Fowles (right) and Atlanta's Sancho Lyttle fight for a rebound Sunday.

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ PHOTO FOR THE TRIBUNE

2013, and none of their six current regulars ever has been in a conference final.

"It's more mental than physical," Sky forward Tamara Young said. "People would say, 'Oh, you always lose to Indy.'

SERIES SCHEDULE

Game 1: Sky at Indiana, 6 p.m. Saturday, NBATV
Game 2: Indiana at Sky, 3 p.m. Monday, NBATV

Game 3: Sky at Indiana, 6 p.m. Wednesday, NBATV*
*IF NECESSARY

A lot of times we've been stuck on that instead of what we can do to beat them."

The difference this year, the Sky hope, is not that they beat Indiana twice in a season for the first time (although Chicago still lost the season series 3-2). It is having won the first-round playoff series with a dramatic rally from 17 points down in the fourth quarter at Atlanta.

"We have the confidence that we just played a tough series against the No. 1 team [in the East] and beat them," Young said.

A year ago, the Fever simply overwhelmed the Sky in the playoffs with aggressive defense.

"Indiana is, 'I'm going to get in your grill and knock your head off,'" Sky center Sylvia Fowles said, with an appreciative smile.

More love for JRW

The Jackie Robinson West Little League team will be honored during a special ceremony prior to the White Sox's second game of a split doubleheader against Detroit on Saturday; game time is 6:10 p.m. All fans attending the game are encouraged to wear gold in honor of the U.S. champions.



Manning

THE DIGIT

\$8,258

The NFL fined Peyton Manning \$8,258 for taunting, according to ESPN. On Saturday, the Denver quarterback threw a touchdown

pass and got in the face of Houston safety D.J. Swearinger. Manning was flagged on the play.



Brandon Marshall
USA TODAY SPORTS



THE MOUTHWATCH

He's not going to talk about internal relationships in the locker room and strategy, but I wouldn't put it past Brandon to drop a red herring here and there."

—Stephen Espinoza, general manager for Showtime Sports, on Bears receiver Brandon Marshall appearing on "Inside the NFL" this season. Marshall will record the show on Tuesdays—generally a day off for NFL players—in New York, traveling by private plane in both directions. Must be nice.



Goodell

NFL cracks down

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell announced sweeping changes to the league's personal-conduct policy Thursday, writing in a letter to NFL owners that discipline for domestic violence incidents will increase significantly.

The NFL will suspend first-time offenders for six games. A second violation would result in a lifetime ban, though players could file for reinstatement after one year.

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style

GRAB THE POLE, GUYS

CHICAGO'S CO-ED POLE-DANCE SCENE IS JUST HEATING UP

By Catie L'Heureux | REDEYE

When Joel Burns mounts a pole to striptease for a bachelorette party, he'll exit the stage 15 minutes later with \$1,400.

It's mad money, but the 25-year-old Bronzeville resident—who by day works as a banker, bartender, model and security guard—is ready to share his art with all Chicago dudes, even if they're not looking to bring sexy back onstage. Burns claims to be the city's first male pole-dance instructor, making his Sept. 4 debut with a series of co-ed pole dance workshops at Good Gyrrl Studio in Bridgeport.

"I thought it would be so negative by me being a male doing pole. I kept that like my little secret," Burns said. "I didn't want to hear the judgment, stereotypes and criticisms of us until it was like, 'OK, this is a talent, it makes me unique, I'm gonna share.' Mainly it keeps me in shape—it tightens up your arms, your core and it's actually a good fitness for you, so you don't have to go to the gym."

Burns is part of an emerging movement of male pole dancers, both locally and nationally. Of Chicago's 11 pole studios, four offer co-ed classes to a handful of men overall: Good Gyrrl Studio, The Brass Ring, Stiletto Dance Studios and Chicago Academy of Pole and Dance, which opens next week. Two other studios, Corporate Pole and S Factor, said they would offer co-ed classes if more men expressed interest, and Corporate Pole is looking for a male instructor.

MORE ONLINE

Check out our instructional pole dancing video with Chicago Academy of Pole and Dance instructor Italia Cordaro, who taught RedEye Web editor Jordan Monroe Schultz some sexy guys' pole tricks, at redeyechicago.com/pole.

The stereotypically feminine gyrations fuse two ancient, male-dominated dance forms—Chinese pole and Mallakhamb, or Indian Pole—with circus-based exotic dance from traveling fairs during the Great Depression. Strippers' poles didn't appear in gentlemen's clubs until the 1980s, and pole fitness went mainstream in L.A. and New York within the past decade. Pole dancing slowly made its way to Chicago, where more studios started opening in the past five years.

Chicago is a baby to the industry, and it's just beginning to make room for men on the pole, Chicago Academy of Pole and Dance owner Italia Cordaro, 35, of the West Loop said. Men come to the pole from various fitness backgrounds like cheerleading, gymnastics, aerial silks and acrobatic arts.

"Training a man is more different than training a woman—our bodies, the way we move and the way we're structured is very different," Cordaro said. "What a lot of studios haven't realized yet either is that there can be couples movements with pole dancing. It's



Burns ANDREW A. NELLES PHOTO FOR REDEYE

Joel Burns demonstrates pole dance routines. ANDREW A. NELLES PHOTO FOR REDEYE



James Haas performs as Willy LaQueue at the Chicago burlesque show Vaudezilla.

something that studios have yet to scratch the surface with.”

Often, men who want to pole dance have trouble finding a co-ed studio. James Haas, a Vaudezilla boylesque performer who goes by the stage name Willy LaQueue, learned to pole dance when he joined the Illini Pole Fitness student group at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2012.

When the 23-year-old Edgewater resident moved to Chicago last year, he searched relentlessly for a studio, but found nothing until The Brass Ring opened in December. Haas says some local studios require prior notice before class, so instructors can tell female students a man will be there.

“It’s a lot of people’s first concern that I’m not there to check out boobs or something,” Haas said. “Guys have to be respectful of women’s comfort. It’s really important that women have a place that they can go to be sexy and judgment-free, and be fit and active without having to be stared at by men.”

Haas said “slut shaming” comes with sexualized performances like pole and burlesque: “As a male performer I’ve noticed that for me there’s not only that judgment or stigma around sexy performances, but also people have to kind of grapple with the fact that I’m doing feminine things. There are some hints of homophobia there too.”

The city’s pole boys exist, but they’re often disconnected from each other or unaware of co-ed offerings. Haas said it’s hard for male pole dancers to find each other because the only place to meet other dancers is in pole classes.

Ryan Castillo, a fitness instructor, said he hasn’t found co-ed classes in Chicago and plans to check out Cordaro’s new studio in September.

“I don’t necessarily want a male space,” said Castillo, a 33-year-old Logan Square resident. “I want a space. It’d be great if there was a place where men and women could come together and just have a place to express themselves artistically and that would be that.”

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Pole precautions

Ready to take a spin? Read up on these tips and tricks for mounting the pole and protecting your goods, courtesy of local dancers and some national polebrities. C.L.H.

CHOOSE YOUR JOCK STRAP

“You can spend \$50 on a ballet belt, or buy a three-pack of peach-colored women’s boy shorts from Wal-Mart for \$3.99. I wear three pairs of underwear and short, short yoga shorts.”

—Joel Lessing, 53, Forest Park

HAIR CAN PINCH AND PULL

“I don’t fully shave, but I do trim, especially around areas where you’re going to be hanging from the pole, so that’s behind your knees for leg hangs and your forearms for arm holds.”

—2014 U.S. National Pole Champion Seanmichael Rau, 28, Berkeley, Calif.

SHOW SOME SKIN

“It’s the best way to anchor yourself on the pole, especially if you rub a little bit of pole wax on you.”

—Jose Amador, 27, Westchester

RETHINK SHORT SHORTS

“I’ll wear briefs. There are other men who will wear booty shorts, and I feel like I don’t want to go on stage and spread my legs and have balls and penis going everywhere.”

—2013 North American Pole Champion Josiah “Bad Azz” Grant, 26, Los Angeles

RECOGNIZE A BALL-CRUSHER

“If someone is teaching you something and it feels like it’s not going to work out for your anatomy, that’s OK. Maybe your arms are too short, maybe your torso is bendy. Some things don’t work for everyone.”

—Seanmichael Rau

IT’S ABOUT YOU, BRO

I basically encourage people to not be judgmental, to live to make themselves happy and do what pleases them to keep them happy.”

—Joel Burns, 25, Bronzeville



IPF director Cassie Palmer and instructor Anthony Abbonato show off pole tricks at Illini Pole Fitness. PHOTO COURTESY OF ILLINI POLE FITNESS

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Illini Pole Fitness takes an active role at U. of I.

It was a crush on a girl that led Anthony Abbonato to Illini Pole Fitness last year, where anyone could learn a new move for \$1 at one of the campus group’s open pole dance classes. By the end of the class, he’d spent nearly \$15.

Today, Abbonato is the college group’s only male pole dance instructor (and dating another girl—she’s not a pole dancer). In the studio, you might spot him in short black shorts emblazoned with the silver-lettered words “Pole Star” on the back.

OK, hold up: a college pole dancing club that stands out in the typical sea of language groups, honor societies and sororistic bake sales? Genius. Miranda Dashut was a University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign student when she mounted two poles in her living room and started IPF two years ago.

Founded to promote pole dance and aerial arts as a sport, the group since has grown to nearly 100 active members, about 15 percent of whom are men, said IPF director Cassie Palmer, a 30-year-old educational psychology Ph.D. student. Palmer also directs Pole 51 in Champaign, where IPF holds classes.

“I really enjoy feeling like my body can do really amazing things because I was always the scrawny guy throughout high school,

who just ran really fast but there wasn’t much to me,” Abbonato, a 21-year-old senior kinesiology major, said. “I always had this difficulty in college with guys wanting to get big. I tried working out and nothing really helped until I found pole. That helped me a lot with some of the issues I was dealing with, and I really feel more comfortable in my own skin.”

Both Abbonato and Palmer said although the gay stereotype exists for male pole dancers, IPF is a mix of gay and straight men. They say the university is mostly accepting of the campus group. “I’ve had students mention they’ll get heckled, but for the most part it’s very well received,” Palmer said. “We’re close enough to Chicago with all the aerial stuff there that I think people understand it.”

Abbonato said a lot of U. of I. guys falsely assume he joined IPF to watch the girls. In the studio, though, he says IPF breaks down traditional gender roles.

“I see guys show a lot more femininity in class than they would out with guys,” Abbonato said. “When I walk in I’m very feminine. It’s like seeing a new me because I feel comfortable showing that side of me.”

CATIE L’HEUREUX, REDEYE



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Is anyone at the bar really looking for love?



Anna Pulley

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Dear Anna,
Is it possible to meet somebody in a lesbian bar who's interested in more than a one-night stand? How do you do it?
—Anon

Dear Anon,
Is it possible to meet someone in a lesbian bar and not end up in a three-year relationship? 'Cause I've never seen it

work the way you describe it.

Kidding (a little)? Of course, not every patron in a given bar—lesbian or otherwise—solely is interested in getting in somebody's pants. Some people are looking for relationships, some are trying to mute the crippling loneliness of existence, some are there to watch WNBA games because they don't have cable and one girl is there because she likes to be surrounded by dreamcatchers.

But how do you differentiate those looking for fireworks from those looking to merely go out with a bang? Follow these simple tips.

» Avoid pursuing anyone who is doing multiple shots of Jager. Anyone who has decided to get rip-roaring drunk, especially if it's on a weeknight, probably is not doing so in order to meet their No. 1 Soulmate Forever. Instead, they are far more likely to meet the asphalt in the alley behind the bar, where they've fallen over while trying to urinate. This isn't to say that a long-term relationship can't sprout from a drunken hookup, just that it's far more unlikely. Plus, anyone doing more than one Jager shot

probably is 21 and still in their "mistakes are my co-pilot" phase of sexual development. Avoid them for the next five or six years.

» Are you at a bar (or gay ladies night) where the music is so loud that you can only make out every third word your would-be paramour is saying and half the attendees have removed much of their clothing? Go to a different bar. If basic conversation is a challenge, you're not going to get very far in the do-we-have-chemistry? department, and possibly in the do-we-have-our-shirts-where-did-our-shirts-go? department.

» Lastly, and perhaps most obviously, don't go home with anyone. If you're not interested in a one-night stand, don't invite that hot stranger over, even if it's under the guise of playing an engrossing round of Cranium or showing her your diverse collection of "Harry Potter" T-shirts. (Nobody plays Cranium with two people.) If you're clicking at the bar, then exchange numbers or Tumblr accounts (or whatever you kids are doing these days) and call it a night. Or take it one step further and make plans for a future date in the sober light of day. This isn't to say you shouldn't make out or get physical if the opportunity arises, just a reminder that it's not that hard to avoid a one-night stand if you A) want to and B) are not impaired by multiple Jager shots.

Good luck, Anon.! May you present only DTF vibes (Down To French) until you are ready for something more.

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A HOUSE FOR ALL?

SIZING UP SOHO HOUSE'S OPEN-TO-THE-PUBLIC SPOTS

In the wake of Chicago gaining its first Soho House—the West Loop outpost of the hotel and private club for creatives founded in London in 1995—earlier this month, interested locals seem to be falling into three camps. There's A) the early adopters who were invited to join and are giving their pals the hard sell to follow suit, B) the scenesters who are coveting it as the coolest new place in town and C) those who think paying \$1,000 or more a year (see sidebar) just to hang out in one building is ludicrous. Regardless of which you fall into, anyone—member or not—can explore the open-to-the-public first floor, which includes a polished pizzeria, speedy chicken joint, lounge and spa. Read on for our review of Pizza East and turn the page for our first impressions of The Allis and Chicken Shop. **LISA ARNETT**

WRITERS VISIT RESTAURANTS UNANNOUNCED; MEALS ARE PAID FOR BY REDEYE. REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM | @REDEYEEATDRINK

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OVEN FRESH

By Michael Nigrant | FOR REDEYE

There are a lot of pizzas in Chicago, but few of them are served in swank hotels that offer members-only boxing rings and film-screening rooms. But that's exactly what you get with the fourth location of Pizza East restaurant (the other three locations are in the United Kingdom) in the new Soho House hotel. While you have to be a member or a Soho House guest to hit the second-floor gym or watch a fancy French flick in the fourth-floor screening room, in theory, anyone can eat at Pizza East located on the first-floor mezzanine. I say "in theory," because on a recent weekend, I couldn't find a reservation before 10 p.m. But scarcity produces yearning, so I persisted and snagged a 9 p.m. res that popped up on opentable.com at the last minute.

The crust: Wood-fired and featuring a puffy edge dotted with bits of carbon and a crispy, golden center, this is one of the better Neapolitan-style crusts in Chicago right now. When I asked chef Kyle Boyce his secret, he said, "Everything we do is made with a little bit of love." Sure it is, chef. As it turns out, the secret is an Italian wheat flour that Boyce found through a Chicago supplier that resulted in a better, crispier crust than the German wheat flour used at Pizza East's other locations. He liked it so much, in fact, that he's rejiggering the recipe in the U.K. to use this new flour, too. As in the U.K., the Chicago dough undergoes a two-day rise; the

long fermentation allows more bubbles to form in the dough, resulting in a satisfying chewy and airy interior.

The toppings: The basic margherita pie (\$13) features a sprinkle of tomato and a handful of basil leaves on a bed of molten buffalo's milk mozzarella. Often, the mozzarella on a margherita stays confined to dense, jiggly circles that don't distribute to the rest of the pizza, but the hot ovens at Pizza East ensure that the creamy cheese oozes like lava over the whole pie. The Portobello pizza (\$13) was covered in inky black roasted mushrooms and finished with a shower of oregano and gooey, funky taleggio cheese. The pie of my dreams turned out to be a white pizza with veal meatballs, crispy prosciutto and a cream-based sauce baked into the crust (\$16). The meatballs were so moist and tender and light that I joked with my friends that they likely were held together by the tears of an Italian grandmother; Boyce said grinding the meat fresh in-house is the key to the moistness and texture.

The sauce: A bright, well-seasoned blend of crushed tomatoes added a bit of acidic pop, but didn't overwhelm any of the excellent ingredients. The cream on the veal pizza was light, with a touch of salt and pepper that complimented the spice in the meatballs.

The service: My friend was happy to see "gluten-free options available" stated on the menu, but unfortunately our server couldn't name any. To her credit, she brought one of the cooks to our table, but even he was noncommittal. Likewise, when we asked the server to recommend some meat options for a charcuterie board, she wasn't able to explain the difference between any of the six types of salumi on the menu. That's pretty sad for a restaurant with breathtaking displays of prosciutto and other cured meats hanging over the bar. ("I think we have about twenty five thousand [dollars] in meat hanging there," Boyce said.) The night ended on a weird note

when the credit card machine was down and our server left us hanging out in the meanwhile. Luckily it was only for 10 minutes, but my tablemates and I joked that we might have to wash dishes since we didn't have cash on us to settle the bill.

The wine: Wine with pizza is a no-brainer, this wine list makes ordering it more confusing than necessary. The first section features by-the-glass and 17-ounce carafe selections that state a grape varietal and region, but not the wine producer or vintage. The second section has full bottles with the name of the wine producer, but no vintage years. The two sections aren't separated from one another very well, so my tablemates and I made the

mistake of ordering a carafe of the house chianti (\$45), thinking it was a full bottle. When the waitress brought the tiny carafe (17 ounces, or about two-thirds the size of a typical full 750-milliliter bottle), we thought she'd brought the wrong size until we realized our mistake. And while not everyone's a wine expert, many diners do want to know the vintage or the producer of the wine they're drinking. Though not providing those details allows a restaurant to switch vintages (and perhaps make a larger margin on their wine selections, if you ask me), they do so at the expense of customer service. If there had been a producer or vintage listed, I might have had a better shot avoiding the bitter, acidic juice passed off as chianti.

The scene: With its industrial red seats, pipe railing fixtures and warehouse-style pendant lamps, Pizza East feels a bit like a dimly lit Chipotle. Another wall lined with cans of tomatoes and bags of flour adds a touch of a Potbelly vibe. Although, there's a touch more glam over both those places found in the flickering wood-fired ovens or the white subway tiles that line the kitchen.

The bottom line: The table and wine service need some work, but Pizza East is already turning out some of the better Neapolitan-style pizza in Chicago.

MICHAEL NAGRANT IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



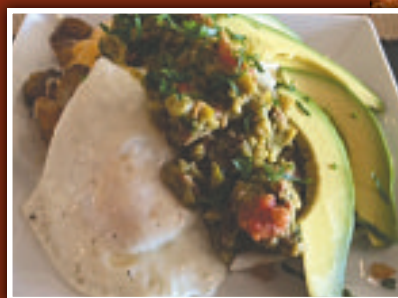
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ALL CHICKEN, ALL THE TIME

By Lisa Arnett | REDEYE

The concept: My server at Soho House's diner-style, no-reservations restaurant Chicken Shop set the stage perfectly as soon as I sat down: "We serve chicken and not a whole lot else," he said. Chicken Shop chef Devon Boyce moved here from London to run Chicago's version of the restaurant (his brother, Kyle, did the same for Pizza East) and he promises a full chicken dinner at your table within five minutes or so of ordering.

The chicken: With Chicago's fried chicken obsession still going strong, it was a welcome change to dig into tender, soft-skinned rotisserie-roasted chicken. Before hitting your plate, whole chickens are marinated in a paprika-heavy spice mix, steamed and marinated again before taking a spin on the hickory-fired rotisserie behind the counter. Free-range birds from Indiana's Pine Manor Farms were selected for "a combination of the meat holding up during the progression [of preparation] and just the actual flavor of the meat itself," Boyce said. Whether you order a quarter (\$8), half (\$14) or whole chicken (\$22), it'll arrive chopped into manageable sections with a bowl on the side to discard the bones; the preparation makes it easy to share, but watch out

for smaller bits of bone. If it's fried chicken you crave, come for weekend brunch, when you can order fried chicken and waffles (\$14), made from a boneless chicken breast and thigh atop a waffle with egg gravy, a white sauce with chopped hard-boiled eggs.

The sides: Once my friend and I decided to split a half chicken, we surveyed the five side dishes (\$5-\$6) to build our own spread. The mac 'n' cheese was created just for the Chicago location and is made with four Italian cheeses: taleggio, parmigiano-reggiano, scamorza and fior di latte. It's a drier, casserole-style mac rather than the gooey, saucy kind, so order it (or don't) depending on your school of thought. Crispy, fresh-from-the-fryer crinkle-cut fries arrive steaming hot with housemade mayo for dipping. There's also a light, tangy coleslaw and grilled corn on the cob—at its best this time of year—and a simple butter lettuce and avocado salad with mustard vinaigrette to add some much-needed green to your plate. All the sides were fairly satisfying in the moment, but nothing I've given a second thought to since.

The sweets: They're under the header "puddings," but that's just British for dessert; none of the three options (\$6) are actually

pudding, but they're all meant for sharing. Super-cinnamony apple pie is dished generously out of the pan at your table, while the ultra-rich chocolate brownie could have used the ice cream or whipped cream promised on the menu. The lemon meringue pie is a highly Instagrammable showstopper with a cloud of marshmallow topping that's nearly five times as tall as the lemon custard base.

The drinks: One column of food options and three columns of drinks means deciding what to imbibe will take a little more time. If you go for wine, you can choose from red, white or rosé in three sizes—by the glass, small jug (500 milliliters) or large jug (750 milliliters, the equivalent of a standard bottle)—and three price levels: house, decent and good (\$7-\$35, \$9-\$45 and \$11-\$55, respectively). It's a cute way to order wine, but probably more complicated than intended. In the cocktail department, you can't go wrong with Bourbon & Lemonade (exactly what it sounds like, plus thyme and honey) or the Ginger Brew, a gingery rye-spiked cooler (both \$12). It's a huge bummer that the Chicago beers are missing their brewery names on the menu; luckily, most locals know that Dog Days is from Two Brothers and that Anti-Hero IPA is a Revolution creation, but Moody Tongue's Crushed Green Coriander witbier isn't well-known enough to be recognized



without the brewery name. Whether it's carelessness or ignorance, it doesn't earn any local cred in my book.

The bottom line: Decent but forgettable, Chicken Shop is the kind of restaurant that was fun to try but I can't say for certain when or if I'll be back. If you're looking for a quick sit-down meal near Randolph Street or just an excuse to check out Soho House, it's a relatively affordable, no-reservations way to do just that.

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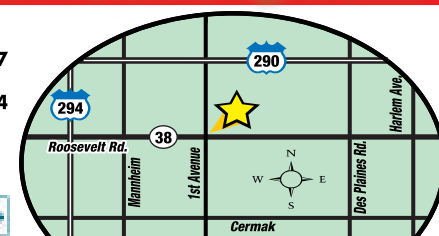
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Inside the Soho House's lounge, The Allis

By Lisa Arnett | REDEYE

Whether you're waiting with bated breath for your Soho House membership application to be considered or are just curious what all the fuss is about, perhaps the best way to get a peek is to stop in its open-to-the-public lounge, The Allis.

It's essentially the Soho House's lobby, though you won't hear anyone there calling it that, said executive chef Andrea Cavaliere, who oversees culinary operations at Soho House's Chicago location. "We hate that word because ... lobby to us sounds very corporate," he said. "It's a space where people check in, check out ... hotel guests, members and then people that walk in through it to Chicken Shop and Pizza East."

Whatever you call it, The Allis is one of the prettiest hotel foyers I've ever seen, with velvet sofas, crystal chandeliers, super-high ceilings and a weathered wooden floor with planks laid in a chevron pattern that drew my eye from one end to the other. Clusters of tables and chairs—some tufted leather, some upholstered in stripes—give off that mis-

matched, not-trying-too-hard look of laid-back elegance that takes a lot of design savvy to pull off. During the daytime, everything is bathed in light from the massive windows that look out onto Green Street.

There's a pristine white marble-topped bar stocked with rows of wine and spirits, but The Allis' location in the front of the building—when the kitchens are in the back—was problematic when it came to serving food. "The question is, what kind of food can we offer, and from where, because there's not really a kitchen there," Cavaliere said. The result is a chef's table next to the bar that, depending on the time of day, displays different snacks that can be assembled to-order by a chef. In the morning, it's pastries and fruit alongside more hearty breakfasts such as boiled eggs with avocado, sourdough bread and smoked salmon. Come afternoon tea time, it's scones and bowls of jam and clotted cream, while a nighttime small plates menu features a few of Europe's favorite drinking snacks—think Scotch eggs, castelvetro olives and marcona almonds.

Based on the number of laptop-toters and



PHIL DEMBINSKI PHOTO FOR REDEYE

folks talking business over coffee that I spotted on a recent afternoon, it's already become a popular coffee shop alternative for working remotely. Sidewalk seating on either side of the entrance provides a nice vantage point to spy on who is heading to RM Champagne Salon, Green Street Smoked Meats and High-Five Ramen through the alley across

the street. Though the six-drink cocktail list is nothing envelope-pushing—it covers your classic cocktail bases with a daiquiri, negroni, old fashioned and La Louisiane, a cross between a manhattan and a sazerac—I could see The Allis as a novel place to park it for a while and watch who's coming and going.

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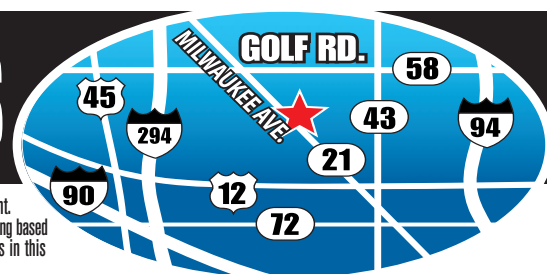
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5 SPOTS TO KEEP ON YOUR RADAR THIS WEEKEND

**Country Club** 3452 N. Clark St. 773-975-2010

Formerly Rebel Bar & Grill, this Wrigleyville spot has morphed into a country-themed bar with a grand opening Friday. A new interior includes reclaimed barn wood, country music posters and larger TVs, plus a DJ booth and stage that eventually may host live music. A food menu also skews Southern with dishes including Fireball whiskey-coated chicken wings, fried pickles and meatloaf sliders, which you can wash down with Get Your Shine On Punch, made with a potent blend of four moonshine whiskeys.

**RPM Steak**

66 W. Kinzie St. 312-284-4990

A sibling restaurant to RPM Italian a few blocks north, this modern steakhouse opened earlier in the week courtesy of Bill and Giuliana Rancic; R.J., Jerrod and Molly Melman; and chef Doug Psaltis (hence the initials). Expect steaks of all sorts—wagyu, USDA prime, grass-fed, you name it—plus seafood and plenty of indulgent desserts.

Salero

621 W. Randolph St. 312-466-1000

Chef Ashlee Aubin of Wood in Lakeview is behind the Spanish-inspired menu at this new West Loop restaurant in the former Alimentari space. We can't help but think this could be just the place for a Basque-inspired snack if you can't snag a spot at always-crowded Avec a few doors down.

Mercadito Counter

738 N. Clark St. 312-756-7560

Chef Patricio Sandoval bends and twists Mexican flavors and American foods at this casual River North restaurant; the result is a hot dog topped with mole barbecue sauce and a burger slathered with jalapeno emulsion. With tortillas by the dozen and guacamole by the quart, this is also a smart pre-party stop.

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A second location of the Lakeview bar/arcade opened Thursday with 14,000 square feet of nostalgic games, pinball machines, craft beer and cocktails. Look for Shel Silverstein-inspired cartoons and poems at the entrance, then make your way to one of three bars where you'll find a selection of 38 draft beers and 40 canned beers. A full kitchen won't open until Sept. 4, but samples of upcoming menu items will be available for the first two weeks.



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Wu Tang Clan at 2013 North Coast Music Festival
TAYLOR GLASCOCK/TRIBUNE FILE



North Coast Music Festival fans
REDEYE FILE



'Generation Sex' at Fringe Festival
PAULA RAMIREZ/TRIBUNE FILE

By Kate Bernot | REDEYE

Bummed that you're not heading out of the city for the long weekend? Instead of dreaming up lies about yachts, glamping and other nonexistent Labor Day weekend plans, head to one of the five festivals going on around Chicago this weekend. There's plenty of diversity in the weekend's line-up, from the daring performances of Fringe Festival to the beats of North Coast to eco-friendly art at Remix Chicago and delicious Polish food at Taste of Polonia. With an extra day to recover before work starts again Tuesday, there's no excuse not to do it big. kbernot@tribune.com | redeyeeatdrink.com

NORTH COAST MUSIC FESTIVAL

When: 3-10 p.m. Friday; 1-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Where: Union Park (1501 W. Randolph St.)

How much: Single-day passes \$69; three-day VIP passes \$279; both available via clubtix.com

Don't miss: OK, billing itself as "Summer's Last Stand" makes this fifth annual music fest a bit bittersweet, but it's the truth. Aside from Riot Fest, this hip-hop and electronic music fest is one of the last big jams of the summer. This year, headliners include Bassnectar (8:30 p.m. Friday), Alesso (8:45 p.m. Friday), Kid Cudi (9 p.m. Saturday), STS9 (7:30 p.m. Saturday) and Snoop Dogg (9 p.m. Sunday). Also look for Chicago up-and-coming rapper Alex Wiley (5:30 p.m. Saturday), New York rapper Action Bronson (7:30 p.m. Friday) and Chicago natives Wild Belle (4:15 p.m. Sunday).

CHICAGO FRINGE FESTIVAL

When: Various times through Sept. 7

Where: Five venues throughout Jefferson Park

How much: One-time entrance fee of \$5;

individual shows \$10; five-show pass \$45;

10-show pass \$80 and an unlimited pass \$175

Don't miss: The fifth year of this experimental and boundary-pushing theater festival assembles 48 Chicago-area and national acts, including returning performers Cosmic Jello, Dream Theater, Nicole Kearney, Rebecca Kling, The League of Miscreants and Wishbone Theatre Collective. The main box office is located inside Fischman Liquors (4780 N. Milwaukee Ave.), which also will host a free opening reception—complete with 1-minute plays and a dance party—Thursday at 6 p.m.

Tickets and schedule: chicagofringe.org

REMIX CHICAGO

When: Noon-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday

Where: Milwaukee Avenue between Fullerton and California avenues

How much: \$5 suggested donation

Don't miss: This eco-friendly art fest returns to Logan Square for a fourth year with work from nearly 30 artists using recycled, found and repurposed materials. Also listen up for music from New York punk band Nude Beach (8 p.m. Sunday), Chicago pop act Panda Riot (7 p.m. Saturday), and Chicago alt-rockers Disappears (8:30 p.m. Saturday).



TASTE OF POLONIA

When: 5-10:30 p.m. Friday; noon-10:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday; noon-10 p.m. Monday

Where: Copernicus Center (5216 W. Lawrence Ave.)

How much: \$7; tickets available at ticketfly.com

Don't miss: The annual Labor Day weekend celebration of Polish culture returns to Jefferson Park for four days of food, music, beer and games. Expect three stages of global music (including traditional polka, pop, rock and jazz) and a DJ-centric stage, plus Kasia's Deli pierogi, potato pancakes and stuffed cabbages; Smakowski Sausage & Deli's polish sausages, kishka and cheese blintzes; and other food and drink vendors.

AFRICAN FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

When: 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday through Monday

Where: Washington Park (5100 S. Cottage Grove Ave.)

How much: \$10 in advance; \$20 at the gate; \$30 for a weekend pass; tickets:

africanfestivalchicago.com

Don't miss: This 25th installment of the Washington Park festival has a hip-hop focus with performances from Chicago artists The Boy Illinois (7 p.m. Friday), YP (6:40 p.m. Friday), and a joint set from King Louie and Katie Got Bandz (8:55 p.m. Friday), plus Grammy Award winner Cyhi The Prynce (8:15 p.m. Friday) and Nipsey Hussle (9:15 p.m. Friday). In addition to music, look for themed pavilions showcasing art, film, food and wine, literature and more.



#GetFested

Each week, we're issuing a mini-challenge to help you make the most of your weekend festival experience. Complete the challenge, snap a photo and tag it **#GetFested** on Instagram for the chance to have your photo appear in our RedEye. Last week, we asked to see something delicious you were eating at a fest, and **@realazja** delivered with this sausage-wine combo from SausageFest. This week, show us your best North Coast photos ... and don't forget the hashtag!

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Delicate displacement



FAST PAISED

Matt Pais

» mpais@tribune.com
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"Love is Strange." What a mild title. That makes me think of couples drinking tea in a garden, laughing during a story of the peculiarities of intimacy. Then toasting and smooching.

The movie is similarly restrained, a minor success that doesn't quite become major. After nearly four decades

together, Manhattan boyfriends Ben (John Lithgow) and George (Alfred Molina) get married. They're delighted, performing a singing piano duet of Dinah Washington and Brook Benton's "Baby (You've Got What It Takes)" during the reception at their apartment.

The jubilation doesn't last long: Saint Grace Academy, the Catholic school where George works as a music teacher, fires him

!!! Love is Strange
R

because of the bishop's discomfort with his newly married employee (even though George has worked there for more than a decade and everyone knew he was gay). Ben and George sell their apartment. With no better/more affordable options in the city while they look for their next residence, Ben sleeps on his great-nephew's bunk bed and annoys his niece (Marisa Tomei) with constant chatter while George stays with friends (including Cheyenne Jackson), gay cops who favor somewhat louder nights than George would prefer.

Conflict remains at a certain distance through "Love is Strange," which director/co-writer Ira Sachs delivers with delicate, judgment-free sympathy. Perhaps New Yorkers will get more out of the pair's housing issue—to a Chicagoan, the problem of newlyweds being forced to live separately



Alfred Molina (left) and John Lithgow in 'Love Is Strange'

isn't treated with enough urgency. How this impacts their state of mind is woven into certain scenes but never quite developed. The same goes for Joey (Charlie Tahan), Ben's perturbed great-nephew who may have stolen books with his one and only friend. Sachs seems to want this subplot to reinforce the challenges that come with harboring secrets, but it doesn't really fit.

All the acting is effortless, though, with

even small characters portrayed very clearly. There is feeling throughout the movie, however muted. Even if there are aspects that could be more fully explored—including the fallout of George's firing and another detail of Joey's personal life—there are several insightful moments to compensate, like Lithgow's face as Ben realizes he has nowhere to go in the home where he's living but clearly intruding.



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Masking its meaning

FAST PAISED

Matt Pairs

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Anyone who raises an eyebrow at Kanye West performing shows in a mask may elevate their entire face at the title character of “Frank.” Played by Michael

Fassbender, he spends all of his time wearing a giant, fake head that looks like something out of a comic book. He wears the head when he sleeps and when he eats. In the shower, he protects the head with a plastic bag.

Frank leads a strange band with an unpronounceable name (Soronprfbs). At times, they possess the quirks of someone doing a mildly grating job of ripping off Wes Anderson. At others, the group seems like an indictment of the music-industry hype machine, in which something bizarre catches on at least temporarily, whether the music’s good or not. Look up “Jason Feathers” for real-life evidence.

And Soronprfbs’ members have plenty of signifiers: Longtime Frank admirer Don



(Scoot McNairy of consecutive Best Picture winners “Argo” and “12 Years a Slave”) says, “I used to [bleep] mannequins. It’s a condition.” Clara (Maggie Gyllenhaal) is never in a good mood. (Sample quote: “Stay away from my [bleeping] theremin.”) One member speaks only French; another barely speaks. Then there’s minimally talented Jon (Domhnall Gleeson of “About Time”), who joins the band after the previous keyboardist tries to drown himself.

Most of the movie finds Soronprfbs attempting to make an album in a remote location in a fashion pretty much opposite to Bon Iver. Soronprfbs is disorganized and absurd, giving Jon lots to document for social media and the buzz it creates. These scenes ping-pong between amusing—Frank asks Jon, “Would it help if I said my facial expressions out loud?”—and tiresome. The latter



Michael Fassbender in ‘Frank’

particularly is the case when co-writer Jon Ronson, who in the late ’80s actually did play keyboards with a fake-head-wearing musician called Frank Sidebottom, seems to play mental illness for laughs. It’s debatable whether the characters are in on the joke, and to what degree it is one.

“Frank” sort of asks where musical genius comes from, and it effectively refutes notions

that pain or illness are desirable for a creative type to reach the next level. Its plot kinda resembles a hipster version of “The Rocker,” multiplied by the Brian Jonestown Massacre’s weird behavior in the fantastic 2004 music doc “Dig!” That movie’s fascinating and has a point. Neither can really be said about “Frank,” but that doesn’t mean it won’t draw you into its oddities.

| MOTION PICTURE DIRECTORY | | Handicapped Access Digital Sound Dolby Stereo No Passes Hearing Impaired |
|--|---|---|
| 600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC) 600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily & ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) ★ D (Closed caption) 10:00 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) ★ D (Closed caption) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) D 10:30, 4:15, 10:15 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG-13) 1:20, 7:20 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) ★ D 11:40, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10 ■ As Above/So Below (R) ★ D 10:00, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20 ■ The November Man (R) ★ D 11:00, 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45 | FORD CITY 14 (AMC) S. Cicero at 76th., Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) D 3:00, 8:00 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) ★ D 11:45 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) ★ D 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) D 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:20 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) 12:30, 5:30, 10:30 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) ★ D 3:30, 6:15, 9:00 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) ★ D 11:00 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) ★ D 11:15, 2:00, 5:00, 7:45, 10:35 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) D 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 ■ As Above/So Below (R) ★ D 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45 ■ The November Man (R) ★ D (Closed caption) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25 ■ AMC Independent Cantinflas (PG) ★ D (Closed caption) 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 10:00 | MUSIC BOX 3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604 ■ The One I Love (R) 3:30, 5:30, 7:40, 9:40 ■ Batman: Mask of the Phantasm (PG) 11:59 ■ Lucy (R) 11:59 ■ Too Late for Tears (NR) 7:00 ■ Roadblock (NR) 9:00 |
| LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK) 2828 North Clark St., Chicago (773) 509-4949 ■ Boyhood (R) (Closed caption) 1:00, 4:30, 8:00 ■ A Most Wanted Man (R) (Closed caption) 4:25, 9:45 ■ Love Is Strange (R) (Closed caption) 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50 ■ Frank (R) 1:35, 4:00, 7:30, 9:45 ■ Calvary (R) (Closed caption) 1:30, 7:10 ■ The Trip to Italy (NR) (Closed caption) 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55 | LOGAN THEATRE 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628 ■ Boyhood (R) 12:15, 2:45, 6:05, 9:05 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20 ■ The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) 12:15, 3:20, 7:10, 9:35 ■ Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior (R) 10:30 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) 11:50, 1:50, 3:50, 6:10, 8:10 | SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC) 7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago (800) 326-3264 #2309 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) D 11:30, 4:40, 9:40 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) ★ D 11:40 ■ Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) D 9:45 ■ X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG-13) ★ D 6:40 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) ★ D 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) D 11:30, 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 9:30 ■ How to Train Your Dragon 2 (PG) D 10:50, 1:20, 4:00 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) 2:10, 7:10 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) ★ D 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 ■ The Expendables 3 (PG-13) D 10:30, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 ■ The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) D 1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50 ■ AMC Independent Chef (R) ★ D 4:00 ■ AMC Independent Begin Again (R) ★ D (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40 ■ Into the Storm (PG-13) D 12:00, 5:30 ■ The Giver (PG-13) D 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30 ■ Island of Lemurs: Madagascar 3D (G) ★ 10:30, 12:00 ■ Lucy (R) D 1:40 ■ Step Up: All In (PG-13) D 10:30 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) ★ D 11:40, 2:20, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) D 10:30, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:30 ■ As Above/So Below (R) ★ D 10:30, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 6:45, 8:30, 9:15, 11:00 ■ As Above/So Below (R) ★ D 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 ■ The November Man (R) ★ D 11:00, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG-13) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 ■ Ghostbusters (PG) ★ D 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 |
| CITY NORTH 14 (REGAL) 2600 N. Western Ave. ■ Island of Lemurs: Madagascar 3D (G) (11:15, 12:30) ■ Guardians of the Galaxy: An IMAX 3D Experience (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15 ■ As Above/So Below (R) (Closed caption) 12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00 ■ Ghostbusters (PG) 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40 ■ Cantinflas (PG) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30 ■ The November Man (R) (Closed caption) 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:25, 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) (Closed caption) 2:35, 5:05, 10:20 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) ★ (Closed caption) 12:00, 7:45 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) (Closed caption) 11:15, 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10 ■ The Giver (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:10, 10:45 ■ The Expendables 3 (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:55, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) (Closed caption) 11:55, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55, 10:35 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) (Closed caption) 2:15, 4:55, 7:30 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:45, 10:15 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:35, 2:25, 5:15, 8:05, 10:55 ■ Lucy (R) (Closed caption) 12:45, 6:50, 9:30 ■ Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) (Closed caption) 3:35 | RIVER EAST 21 (AMC) 322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago 888-AMC-4FUN Show times change daily ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) ★ D 10:00, 2:30, 7:50 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) ★ D 11:50 ■ X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG-13) ★ D 7:55 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) ★ D 2:30, 5:15, 7:50, 10:40 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) D 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 7:45, 9:15 ■ How to Train Your Dragon 2 (PG) D 10:00, 12:00, 2:35, 5:10 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) ★ 11:50, 5:15, 10:40 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG-13) 10:30, 11:30, 4:30, 10:45 ■ AMC Independent A Most Wanted Man (R) D 10:15, 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) ★ D 10:05, 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40 ■ The Expendables 3 (PG-13) D 10:10, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10 ■ The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) D 10:00, 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 9:50 ■ AMC Independent Chef (R) D 6:10 ■ AMC Independent Begin Again (R) D (Closed caption) 10:25, 1:20, 4:05, 6:55, 9:45 ■ The Giver (PG-13) D 11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35 ■ Lucy (R) D 10:55, 1:20, 3:45, 6:40, 8:55, 10:30 ■ AMC Independent Yves Saint Laurent (R) ★ D 11:20, 2:10, 4:45, 7:25, 10:05 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) ★ D 11:15, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) D 11:45, 2:20, 5:05, 8:00, 10:55 ■ AMC Independent Boyhood (R) D 2:45, 6:30 ■ As Above/So Below (R) ★ D 11:00, 12:15, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30, 11:00 ■ AMC Independent Raja Natwarlal (NR) ★ D 12:30, 3:50, 7:05, 10:25 ■ The November Man (R) ★ D 10:45, 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:35 ■ Ghostbusters (PG) D 10:40, 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10 | SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC) E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago (800) 326-3264 #1646 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) D 1:45, 7:15 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) ★ D 11:00 ■ X-Men: Days of Future Past (PG-13) D 6:45, 9:45 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) D 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) D 11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:35, 10:30 ■ How to Train Your Dragon 2 (PG) D 11:15, 1:45, 4:15 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) D 11:00, 4:30, 10:00 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) D 10:30, 1:15, 4:00, 6:45, 9:30 ■ The Expendables 3 (PG-13) D 10:30, 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20 ■ Into the Storm (PG-13) D 10:40, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30 ■ The Giver (PG-13) D 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) ★ D 11:20, 1:55, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) D 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8:00, 10:35 ■ AMC Independent Cantinflas (PG) D 1:00, 3:45, 6:30 ■ As Above/So Below (R) ★ D 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15, 9:30, 10:15 ■ The November Man (R) ★ D 11:45, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25 ■ The Expendables 3 (PG-13) D 11:30, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20 ■ AMC Independent Cantinflas (PG) ★ D (Closed caption) 11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30 |
| DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE) 4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago (773) 784-0893 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 ■ Magic in the Moonlight (PG-13) 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 ■ Me and You (NR) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15 ■ The November Man (R) 12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00 | WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL) 1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago ■ As Above/So Below (R) (Closed caption) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:30 ■ The November Man (R) (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 9:55 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) (Closed caption) 5:10, 10:25 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) ★ (Closed caption) 11:50, 2:30, 7:50 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) (Closed caption) 11:25, 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10 ■ The Giver (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:55, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) (Closed caption) 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:40, 4:10, 6:40 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 11:15, 9:20 ■ The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) (Closed caption) 11:00, 1:30, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40 | SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago (312) 564-2104 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) 10:15, 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 10:10 ■ Dawn of the Planet of the Apes 3D (PG-13) 1:45, 10:45 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) 2:20, 8:00 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG-13) 11:45, 3:00, 6:10, 9:10 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) 1:20, 10:15 ■ Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) 10:50, 4:50, 7:50 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) 11:30, 5:10, 10:50 ■ The Giver (PG-13) 11:40, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30 ■ The November Man (R) 11:15, 2:30, 5:15, 8:10, 11:00 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) 11:15, 2:30, 5:15, 8:10, 11:00 ■ Lucy (R) 11:10, 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) 10:30, 4:20, 7:20 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) 10:10, 1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 10:00 |
| GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER 184 State Street (312) 846-2800 ■ A Letter to Mom (NR) 6:00 ■ Laughter (NR) 6:15 ■ Bound by Flesh (NR) 8:15 ■ Jealousy (NR) 8:15 | OAK PARK LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC) 1022 Lake Street, Oak Park (630) 444-FILM #560 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9:00 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) (Closed caption) 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40 ■ Calvary (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 ■ The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) (Closed caption) 1:15, 4:00, 6:40, 9:20 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 ■ The November Man (R) 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50 | EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY) 1715 Maple Ave., Evanston (847) 492-0123 & ■ Ghostbusters (PG) 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 ■ Chef (R) D (Closed caption) 12:10 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 2:00, 7:40 ■ Guardians of the Galaxy 3D (PG-13) (Closed caption) 11:10, 4:50, 10:30 ■ If I Stay (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:55, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35 ■ A Most Wanted Man (R) D (Closed caption) 11:00, 1:50, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25 ■ Magic in the Moonlight (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:25 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:15, 4:25, 10:25 ■ Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 3D (PG-13) (Closed caption) 1:50, 7:00 ■ Lucy (R) D (Closed caption) 11:40, 5:00, 10:15 ■ The Expendables 3 (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 2:05, 7:20 ■ The Giver (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 3:10, 5:40, 10:35 ■ Boyhood (R) D (Closed caption) 3:15, 6:50, 9:35 ■ The Hundred-Foot Journey (PG) D (Closed caption) 10:50, 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:20 ■ Let's Be Cops (R) D (Closed caption) 12:00, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05, 10:40 ■ As Above/So Below (R) D (Closed caption) 10:55, 1:15, 3:35, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For (R) D 12:15, 8:00 ■ Frank Miller's Sin City: A Dame to Kill For 3D (R) 2:50, 5:30, 10:45 ■ When the Game Stands Tall (PG) D (Closed caption) 11:05, 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10 ■ The November Man (R) D (Closed caption) 11:45, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40 ■ Land Ho! (R) D 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45 ■ Calvary (R) D (Closed caption) 11:50, 2:35, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15 ■ Cantinflas (PG) D 10:55, 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 9:40 ■ Love Is Strange (R) D (Closed caption) 11:20, 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 9:50 |

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Highlights include Snoop Dogg
(9 p.m. Sun.) and Talib Kweli
(4:30 p.m. Sat.).



Jason Mraz reveals his retirement plan

Los Angeles Times

"I have a gift for you," said Jason Mraz, arms outstretched.

Cupped in his palms was an avocado, bumpy and green. It came from a tree on his farm—"100% organic, Mraz Fresh," the sticker read. Last year, he sold 34,000 pounds of the fruit to Chipotle stores near his Oceanside, Calif., home. He grows other things on his land, too—peppers and corn and leafy greens. If he could, he said, he'd spend most of his days there, hands in the earth.

Mraz wants to garden more, surf more, have a kid, put some of the money he's saved from selling 4.5 million albums nationwide toward a good cause. So he's started a campaign with his manager: "#RetiredAt40." He has one more album left on his contract with Atlantic Records, and then he plans to check out for a while.

"I'm just ready for a break. It feels like a cor-

porate job sometimes," said the 37-year-old, who plays the Chicago Theatre on Nov. 7 and 8.

It's a surprising admission from the singer-songwriter, whose fifth studio album, "Yes!", opened at No. 2 on the Billboard 200 chart last month. With two Grammys under his belt, Mraz appeared to have settled into a professional groove.

If #RetiredAt40 really does come to fruition, Mraz doesn't plan on giving up music entirely. For each album he's released, he has 70 leftover songs. He'd like to make an album for kids, and one filled with Christmas or gospel music.

"The reality is, I think he's really happy in his personal life right now," said Sam Riback, Atlantic's senior vice president and head of West Coast A&R. "He's had more success than he could have imagined. So could he retire at 40? Maybe. But there's a songwriter and a storyteller and performer in him. I have a feeling he's gonna have many songs to write."



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K. Michelle

R&B and reality TV are in tune with each other

Los Angeles Times

When K. Michelle released “Rebellious Soul” last year, it was the highest charting debut for a female R&B singer since 2011. Largely unknown, she didn’t even have a song in the Top 40.

But the Memphis, Tenn., native (born Kimberly Michelle Pate) had a powerful promotion tool on her side: reality television.

While unscripted TV has long made stars out of oddball personalities, it’s also helped reinvigorate the careers of fallen stars—see Flavor Flav, Ray J and Kim Kardashian. Now, a slew of shows anchored by rising and veteran singers such as “Love & Hip Hop” and “R&B Divas” has become the genre’s new normal.

“I really didn’t have anything to lose,” the 30-year-old K. Michelle said, who is part of the cast of VH1’s “Love & Hip Hop.” “I had just gotten out of a record deal ... and it made me think, ‘Wow, I don’t have a brand.’ I wanted people to hear my music, but I wanted to tell my story.”

Since Michelle’s role in the “Love & Hip Hop” franchise began, she has headlined a sold-out tour, won new artist honors at the Soul Train Awards and NAACP Image Awards and scored a spinoff series that will air in the fall.

“I took it very seriously. I went in it saying this is not going to overshadow everything about my music,” Michelle said. “A lot of negotiating went into my story line. [I told pro-

ducers] I’m not doing this scene unless you give me this scene with my music.”

A protege of Missy Elliott in the late ’90s, Cynthia “Lil Mo” Loving bluntly explains the ongoing marriage between R&B singers and reality TV: “There are other ways to break yourself, but it takes too long.”

Loving is featured on TV One’s hit “R&B Divas: Los Angeles.” The show premiered last year and is a spinoff of the Atlanta-based original. Last month, the premiere of its second season outperformed the 2014 ESPY Awards in the ratings.

“I’ve written a book, I’ve recorded an album, I’ve done a movie, I have a detox program, I have a hair line,” Loving said. “For everything that the music industry didn’t afford you, being on TV is a whole different opportunity and platform.”

Michelle’s reality show will launch in the fall on VH1, and the network also will debut “Love & Hip Hop: Hollywood” in September. A third entry in the “R&B Divas” franchise is being evaluated, and Keyshia Cole is timing her coming album with her third reality series (her first, “The Way It Is,” was once the most-watched program in BET’s history after its 2006 debut).

“I feel sorry for my peers on labels that are new without reality shows,” Michelle said. “Nowadays, these kids don’t care that you can sing. They want to see that personality. I definitely used that to my advantage, and it worked.”

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THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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ACROSS

- 1 Staple at Italian meals
6 Dishonest way to make money
10 Carpet with a thick pile
14 Modify
15 oneself; work steadily
16 Ring of light above a saint
17 Ship's poles
18 Had debts
19 Chief Norse deity
20 Violent downpours
22 Show up
24 Dollar bills
25 Sound of dishes being hastily stacked
26 Ensnare
29 In __; speedily
30 Zodiac sign
31 Shoestrings
33 Nylon mishaps
37 Injure through rough handling
39 Reluctant
41 Exchange
42 "Turkey in the __"
44 Firebug's crime
46 Cotton gin man __
Whitney
47 Uncouth
49 Become firm
51 Up-to-date
54 Trick; fool
55 Scallions, e.g.
56 "...Over the __ we watched..."
60 __ together; combines
61 __ out; become dilapidated
63 Boise's state
64 Signals to an actor
65 "Jane __"; Brontë novel
66 At no time
67 In this place
68 Oliver or Rex
69 Say hello to

DOWN

- 1 In the __; before now
2 Dog food brand
3 Celebrity
4 Extreme fear
5 Supply of weapons
6 Blemishes
7 Crow sounds
8 Highest spade
9 Olympic prizes
10 Abbreviates
11 "I've __!"; cry from one who's out of patience
12 Still breathing
13 One doomed
21 Kathmandu's nation
23 "Phooey!"
25 Throws
26 Lawn trees
27 __ as a pin

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- 28 Sightseeing trip
29 Listens
32 Seashore
34 Floored
35 Violent wind
36 Twirl
38 Game played with long sticks
40 Boring
43 Architect Sir Christopher __
45 Taking a rest
48 Reply
50 Kindle user
51 Team director
52 Excessive
53 Equestrian
54 Was bold
56 Uncommon
57 Talk wildly
58 You, biblically
59 Type; variety
62 Needle's hole

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whoville

Pitt and Jolie arrive at the 2014 Academy Awards in March.
LOS ANGELES TIMES

I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU BRANGELINA

THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS COUPLE FINALLY GOT MARRIED

By Dana Moran | REDEYE

Wondering why Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie didn't show up to the Video Music Awards and Emmys? (Yeah, us neither, they're kinda too good for that.) Turns out they were getting hitched! The "Mr. and Mrs. Smith" co-stars and longtime couple wed in a secret ceremony Saturday at France's Chateau Miraval, which also produces their rose wine, the Associated Press reports.

Pitt and Jolie long had refused to get married until the right was extended to all gay couples in the U.S., but their six kids had been getting on their case in recent years, which admittedly is pretty adorable. Play our board game to follow their long and winding road to the altar. DAMORAN@TRIBUNE.COM | REDEYEDANA



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS
SOURCES: PEOPLE MAGAZINE, W MAGAZINE, VANITY FAIR

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THIS WEEK

JUICE ON THE LOOSE:

Cold press juices are reaching critical mass in Chicago

TAKE IT TO THE POLE:

Chicago's co-ed pole-dance scene is just heating up

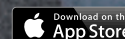
A HOUSE FOR ALL?

Sizing up Soho House's open-to-the-public restaurants



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red hot



The rock show

We're already mega-excited to see Weezer play at Riot Fest on Sept. 14, and now front-man Rivers Cuomo has another project in the works. *Deadline.com* reports he's teamed up with "Psych" creator Steve Franks for "DeTour," based on Rivers' experiences as a 30-something rock star. The pilot has been picked up by Fox, but we have a sneaking suspicion that Rivers himself won't actually be starring. Oh, and "The Blue Album" came out 20 years ago WHATTTTTTT.

THE QUOTE
At one point I looked around and I said, 'I don't think anybody is going to go for this, but this is wonderful.' It felt so good. Lo and behold, people really did go for it in a really big way."

—"Orange Is the New Black" star and Emmy nominee Laverne Cox, to *Essence* magazine, on the show's diverse cast. She's on the cover of the mag's October issue along with Nicole Beharie of "Sleepy Hollow," Alfre Woodard of "State of Affairs" and Danai Gurira of "The Walking Dead."

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OCT 8
FX
FEARLESS

THE FREAKS ARE HERE

FX is giving fans a first look at the "American Horror Story: Freak Show" cast as their characters. "Freak Show" is set to premiere Oct. 8 and stars, as you can see, Sarah Paulsen (two-headed swinger); Denis O'Hare (2nd row, from left), Kathy Bates (bearded lady), Angela Bassett (tri-breasted woman), Frances Conroy; Michael Chiklis (strong man, bottom row, from left), Jessica Lange and Evan Peters. Emma Roberts, Finn Wittrock, John Carroll Lynch and Patti LaBelle also star.

HOT DATE
DEC. 12

That's when Netflix's latest original series, "Marco Polo," will premiere, RedEye's Curt Wagner reports. It tells the story of the explorer Marco Polo in Kublai Khan's court in 13th century China, and stars Italian hottie Lorenzo Richelmy in the titular role. Whether Netflix ever will release an original series about the popular swimming-pool game Marco Polo, we could not tell you.

Power player

Shonda Rhimes may have her very own night on ABC (it's Thursday), but the "Grey's Anatomy" and "Scandal" creator will be taking a trip to Fox this fall. *TVLine.com* reports that Rhimes will make her acting debut on an episode of "The Mindy Project," playing herself. Hopefully this will be as awesome as the time Liz Lemon met "Oprah" on a plane on "30 Rock." "The Mindy Project" is back for its third season Sept. 16.



'Friends' or fiction?

A little bit of both, it seems. While ex-husband Brad Pitt was recovering from his wedding Saturday to Angelina Jolie (See Page 42), Jennifer Aniston appeared Tuesday night on "Jimmy Kimmel Live" along with former co-stars Lisa Kudrow and Courteney Cox to act out fan-fiction scenes on a replica of the show's set. The script was pretty terrible, but let's be honest, who doesn't want to see half the cast of "Friends" in the same place at once?
REUTERS, GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS